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IFWR SET 2822

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/670,917
<i>Filing Date</i>	September 29, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Norikazu MIZUNO et al.
<i>Art Unit</i>	2822
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Guerrero, Maria F.
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	81877.0007

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Declaration Under 37 CFR § 1.132

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1314.
 - i. RCE fee (\$770.00) required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (\$950.00) (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

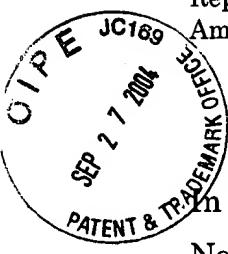
Name (Print Type)	Troy M. Schmelzer	Registration No. (Attorney Agent)	36,667
Signature	September 24, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print Type)	Joyce Hegeman	Date	September 24, 2004
Signature	September 24, 2004		

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Norikazu MIZUNO et al.

Serial No: 09/670,917

Filed: September 29, 2000

Confirmation No. 1895

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD AND
APPARATUS FOR REMOVING
SILICON NITRIDE FORMED IN A
REACTION CONTAINER (AS
AMENDED)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2004, the time for response to which is extended by three months by the accompanying petition to September 27, 2004, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Art Unit: 2822

Examiner: Maria F. Guerrero

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
September, 2004
Date of Deposit
Joyce Hegeman
Name
Signature
9/24/04
Date